## **Overall Incidence**

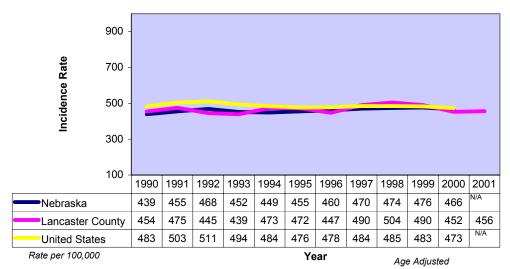
In 2001, 979 new cancer cases were diagnosed in Lancaster County, translating to a crude rate of 391 per 100,000 population. When adjusted for age differences, this came out to be 456 cases for every 100,000 population (Figure 1). Despite year-to-year statistically insignificant variations, the overall cancer incidence remained static for the County. A similar trend was also observed in the State and in the Nation (Figure 2). Males had a higher cancer incidence than females, although, the difference decreased since 1996 (Figure 3). In 2001, the age-adjusted incidence rate for cancer was 503 per 100,000 male population and 425 per 100,000 female population.

900 700 500 300 100 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 Crude Incidence rate 386 405 378 374 405 406 388 423 440 428 390 391 445 439 473 472 490 490 452 454 475 447 504 456 Age adjusted Incidence Year

Figure 1: Cancer Incidence Rate Lancaster County (1990-2001)

Rate per 100,000 population Source: Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

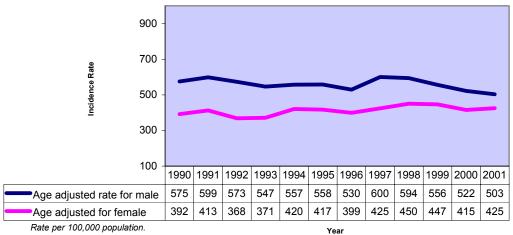
> Figure 2: Cancer Incidence Rate Lancaster County, Nebraska & US (1990-2001)



Source: Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

Figure 3: Cancer Incidence by Gender

Lancaster County (1990-2001)



Rate per 100,000 population.

Source: Lincoln-Lancaster County Health

## **Public Health Implications:**

Healthy People 2010 goals and objectives for the United States, Nebraska and Lincoln and Lancaster County all focus on reducing the incidence and mortality related to cancer and on improving the quality of life for cancer survivors.

The incidence of cancer can be reduced by efforts directed at cancer prevention and early detection. This includes smoking cessation, improved dietary habits, weight control and physical activity. The timely use of recommended cancer screening examinations is basic to identify cancer in early, treatable stages. Differences in racial and ethnic incidence and mortality rates for various cancer sites are well documented and emphasize the need for focused efforts to eliminate disparities. Community-wide, comprehensive efforts will be necessary to achieve healthy lifestyles in a healthy environment.